Launching New Literacies: Strategies to Maximize Engagement

Mount Teacher Institute 2012

Dr. Carolyn Cook

Project 2 – Lesson Plan

**Liz O’Donoghue**

[**eodonoghue@sjrcs.org**](mailto:eodonoghue@sjrcs.org)

**Background Information:** This lesson was done with an 8th Grade Church History class as part of a first trimester project. Each student researched the life of an individual from Church History with whom they shared a common interest and who exemplified admirable character traits including but not limited to the values from our school’s values code (<http://www.valuesfirst.org/values/>), the gifts and fruits of the Spirit, and the Beatitudes. Students had completed a Web quest by searching for individuals who shared a birthday, had the same ethnic or cultural background, who had similar hobbies, interests, or favorite foods. They researched this individual during their Web quest time and then on their own time.

Students wrote a paper or did a Power Point, Story Board, Movie, or other audio-visual presentation. Since students were accustomed to including a resource list with a minimum of three reputable sources for all projects, they were asked to include a “Works Cited” page in the 7th edition MLA format and to include URL addresses if applicable. Parenthetical citations were neither required nor asked for since that format is taught later in the year. High academic achievers had no problem using the MLA format, and some included proper parenthetical citations. There were some students who struggled either with the MLA “Works Cited” format or with how to find reputable resources. Two students wanted to cite “Google” and/or “Wikipedia”. This year’s MSM Teacher institute really helped me clearly define how I want to work with the students in the upcoming year. I have modified two lessons to combine them into one lesson that will, hopefully, meet with better results.

**Last Year’s Lessons (2 will be combined into 1)**

Due to limited computer lab time and the fact that there was an assembly, the shorter first lesson was done in the regular classroom. The second lesson was done as a full lesson in the computer lab.

**Standard/Indicator/Objective**:

MSDE 4.0 Writing

7. Locate, retrieve, and use information from various sources to accomplish a purpose

c. Use a systemic process for recording, documenting, and organizing this

information

• Use a recognized format for documentation such as MLA

AOB L.A. 8.4 Writing

L.A.8.4.1 Prepares a research report based on a standard, such as the “MLA” style

of writing

AOB L.M. 6-8.8.3 Applies property rights across the range of information formats- print,

non-print, and electronic

**Technology Strategies Utilized**: Lesson 1 - LCD Projector in regular classroom

Lesson 2 – LCD Projector, Computers in Computer Lab, Easybib

**Introduction**: Lesson 1 - The class reviewed the format for a “Works Cited” page, by watching the screencast <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ng_PeRBFa4s>.

Lesson 2 – As a class, students logged on and completed a sample entry into “Easybib” and cut and pasted that into a sample “Works Cited” document.

**Procedure:** Lesson 1 - Students completed a worksheet to create a sample “Works Cited” page. (See Page titled “T1 Project – Citing Your Sources”) High achievers completed this correctly while working independently. Those who struggled were encouraged to work with a partner. The students who successfully completed the worksheet began writing the “Works Cited” page for their own project.

Lesson 2 – Students created their own “Works Cited” page. Those who finished their work were happy to help classmates who were struggling.

**Conclusion:** Lesson 1 - Reviewed the format of a “Works Cited” page and set up an example citation in “Easybib”.

Lesson 2 – Students saved their work to their thumb drives or to the U drive.

**This Year’s Lesson**

**Standard/Indicator/Objective**:

MSDE 4.0 Writing

7. Locate, retrieve, and use information from various sources to accomplish a purpose

c. Use a systemic process for recording, documenting, and organizing this

information

• Use a recognized format for documentation such as MLA

AOB L.A. 8.4 Writing

L.A.8.4.1 Prepares a research report based on a standard, such as the “MLA” style

of writing

AOB L.M. 6-8.8.3 Applies property rights across the range of information formats- print,

non-print, and electronic

**Technology Strategies Utilized**: LCD Projector, Smart Board *(this technology has been added for the coming year)*, Computers in Computer Lab, Every Pupil Response System (EPR) *(this technology has been added for the coming year)*, Internet, Easybib and/or Son of Citation, link to Faculty Webpage containing given resources for Sample Works Cited page *(this has been added for the coming year)*

**Introduction**: Students will review the MLA format by first using the Smart Board to label the parts of a Works Cited page. Then, the students will identify use the Every Pupil Response (EPR) system with a Turning Point Presentation to answer questions about the format of a Works Cited page.

**Procedure:** Working as a whole class, with teacher questioning and modeling, students will create a sample “Works Cited Page” using Easybib/Son of Citation and given resources at their own computers. Then, working independently, students will access their own resources and will use Easybib/Son of Citation to create their own “Works Cited Page”. Students will be encouraged to “peer edit” these pages. They will save their work to their thumb drives.

**Conclusion:** Students will complete a survey accessed through the teacher website. *(This technology has been added for the coming year. Also, students who really struggle may be asked to help create a screencast on the process of writing a Works Cited page in MLA format.)*

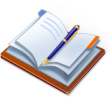
*Last Year - Hand Written Worksheet*

**T1 Project – Citing Your Sources**

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 Jagerstatter, Franz, Karl Leisner, and Rupert Mayer. *Maximillian Kolbe: Victim of Nazis*.

Mahwah, NJ: Paulist Press, 1997. Print.

 Laurence, Rees. *Auschwitz: A New History*. New York: Public Affairs, 2005. Print.

C:\Program Files\Microsoft Office\MEDIA\CAGCAT10\j0205582.wmf Ready, Becky. "Patron of Our Difficult Century." *EWTN*. Coventual Franciscan

Friars of Marytown, 1996. Web. 10/02/2011.

<http://www.ewtn.com/library/ANSWERS/KOLANTI.htm

 "The Story of St Maximilian Kolbe." *YouTube*.

YouTube, 27 May 2008. Web. 02 Oct. 2011.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2rXx0UTQ5SA>.

Write out the resource list above using MLA 7th edition guidelines.

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*This year, students will use the Smart Board and will work as a class to label and put sources in correct order using the following examples ...*

Works Cited

"Mother Teresa Voted by American People as Most Admired Person of the Century."

*Gallup, Inc.* N.p., 31 Dec. 1999. Web. 07 July 13. <http://www.gallup.com/poll/3367/Mother-Teresa-

Voted-American-People-Most-Admired-Person-Century.aspxhttp://>.

Spink, Katherine. *Mother Teresa: A Complete Authorized Biography*. New York: Harper Collins, 1997.

Print.

"Mother Teresa - Biography". Nobelprize.org. 14 Jul 2012

http://www.nobelprize.org/nobel\_prizes/peace/laureates/1979/teresa-bio.htmlNewport, Frank.

Nawla, Navin. "Mother Teresa and the Joy of Giving." *The Hindu: Online Edition of India's National*

*Newspaper*. The Hindu, 26 Aug. 2008. Web. 13 July 2012.

*This year, students will respond using the Every Pupil Response System to the MLA Works Cited review questions . . .*



*This year, students will complete an online survey (done through Sharepoint) after they have finished the MLA Works Cited page.*

1] How many sources did you use for your project?

2] Was it difficult for you to find a minimum of three reputable sources? Why or why not?

3] What is the importance of citing your sources?

4] Of resources available, which do you prefer books, newspapers, journals, or databases? Why?

5] How was your experience using the “Easybib” site? Are you aware of other sites that allow for input

to cite sources in MLA format? If so, what are they?

6] How comfortable are you with applying what you learned to your projects and reports in the future?

*This year, if any given student or students really struggle with this, they will be invited to help create a Screencast explaining the process.*

Works Cited

"Using the State Curriculum: Reading/ELA, Grade 8." *Writing ~ Grade 8 ~ Reading/ELA Using the State*

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<http://mdk12.org/instruction/curriculum/reading/standard4/grade8.html>.

Valenti, Ronald J. *Archdiocese of Baltimore Course of Study: Language Arts Curriculum*.

Baltimore, MD: n.p., 2005.